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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990s

Ghana*: draft resolution

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990 in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Deeply concerned about the continuing deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries as a whole and the adverse impact of the recent unforeseen external developments and other emergencies on their overall socio-economic situation,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ in which it was stated, inter alia, that it would be essential to stem the increasing marginalization of the least developed

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

countries and to reactivate their growth and development through comprehensive national action and international support measures,

Affirming the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ in which Member States stressed, inter alia, the need for full implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, 3/

Recalling that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of those countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and, in the process, to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

Reaffirming the basic principles outlined in the Programme of Action as the basis for action by the least developed countries and their development partners, including international organizations, financial institutions and development funds, to promote fundamental, growth-oriented transformation of the economies of those countries,

Recalling the solemn commitment of the international community, as contained in the Paris Declaration, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 3/ to implement the Programme of Action throughout the 1990s,

Stressing that successful implementation of the Programme of Action will depend on shared responsibility and strengthened partnership for the growth and development of the least developed countries,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General; 4/

2. Calls upon all Governments, international and multilateral organizations, financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to fully implement the Programe of Action as a matter of urgency;

2/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

3/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

4/ A/46/566.

3. Reaffirms that the least developed countries have the primary responsibility for the formulation and effective implementation of national policies and priorities for their growth and development, and, in that context welcomes the fundamental and far-reaching changes that have been or are being initiated in the least developed countries;

4. Stresses that the domestic policy initiatives of the least developed countries deserve the increased support of all their development partners;

5. Strongly urges all donor countries to implement fully and expeditiously their commitments in all areas, as set out in the Programme of Action, so as to provide adequate external support to the least developed countries, and keep under continuous review the possibility of implementing further new steps in specific areas of importance to the least developed countries;

6. Welcomes the decision to upgrade the unit of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development that deals with the least developed countries to a division, and expresses the hope that the division will concentrate more fully on the problems and requirements of the least developed countries;

7. Invites the governing bodies of the organs, organizations, agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to take the necessary and appropriate measures for effective implementation and follow-up of the Programme of Action within their respective spheres of competence and according to their mandates;

8. Invites the preparatory bodies of all major forthcoming meetings and conferences of the United Nations system to take into account the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in conformity with paragraph 142 of the Programme of Action, 3/ to continue to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation and follow-up of the Programme of Action, in close collaboration with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the secretariats of the regional commissions and the lead agencies for the aid groups;

10. Calls upon all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to establish focal points for the least developed countries, if they have not already been established, and to strengthen the existing ones in order to involve them actively in the implementation tasks throughout the 1990s, and also calls upon them to take steps to operationalize the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action that fall within their area of competence;

11. Urges all Governments, international and multilateral organizations, regional economic integration organizations and relevant non-governmental

organizations to continue to pay special attention to the problems of the least developed countries, and, in this regard, welcomes the Tokyo Forum on the development problems of the least developed countries, organized in Tokyo from 13 to 15 May 1991 by the Government of Japan in collaboration with the United Nations Capital Development Fund;

12. Deeply appreciates the contributions of the Governments of Finland, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway to specific programmes of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the least developed countries;

13. Emphasizes once again the importance of economic and technical cooperation between the least developed countries and other developing countries, and, in that regard, highly recommends mechanisms of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries to strengthen the development efforts of the least developed countries and urges the development partners to assist in such activities;

14. Stresses the importance of effective follow-up and monitoring mechanisms for the Programme of Action, and, in that context, requests the Secretary-General to make resources available from the regular budget of the United Nations to meet the cost of participation of at least one representative of each least developed country at the spring session of the Trade and Development Board, which, in accordance with the provisions of the Programme of Action and Assembly resolution 45/206, will undertake the annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

15. Calls upon the international community to continue to assist the land-locked and island least developed countries in coping with their special problems, in line with the relevant recommendations contained in the Programme of Action;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to report, on a continuing basis, on the implementation of the provisions of the Programme of Action.